



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,  
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## ***THALICTRUM ALPINUM*** **ALPINE MEADOWRUE**

Alpine Meadowrue is a small perennial with mostly simple and nearly leafless stems that are 3-18 cm tall and arising from extensive, slender rhizomes. Each leaf has a slender petiole and is twice-pinnately divided into broad, 3 lobed segments that are 3-8 mm long. Foliage is glabrous or occasionally glandular and covered with a thin, bluish wax. The flowers have both anthers and pistils and are borne on short, nodding stalks in a narrow, terminal inflorescence. The 5 small sepals are purplish and fall soon after opening; petals are lacking. The 2-4 achenes are narrowly elliptic in outline, 2-4 mm long, and prominently ribbed. Flowering in late May-June, fruiting in July.

The small size and flowers with both anthers and pistils distinguish this from all other species of *THALICTRUM*.